

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 01979 040452Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09
OES-07 /046 W
-----014894 041044Z /17

R 040425Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 183
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, SN, ID, MY
SUBJ: SINGAPORE CONCERN OVER FAR EAST FREIGHT CONFERENCE
RATE INCREASES

1. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH SINGAPORE DEPT. OF TRADE OFFICIAL FOR SHIPPING MR. CHUA KIN POH ON MAY 2, MR. CHUA COMMENTED THAT THE GOS WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED OVER THE PERIODIC FREIGHT RATE INCREASES INSTITUTED BY THE FAR EAST FREIGHT CONFERENCE. WHEN EMBASSY OFFICER ATTEMPTED TO GET MR. CHUA TO EXPAND ON THIS COMMENT, HE WAS HESITANT BUT AFTER FURTHER QUESTIONING INDICATED THAT THE GOS IS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING SOME TYPE OF COUNTER-ACTION AGAINST THE CONFERENCE IF THE FREIGHT CONFERENCE CONTINUES TO RAISE RATES AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST. MR. CHUA WOULD NOT PROVIDE SPECIFICS REGARDING POSSIBLE COUNTER-MEASURES BUT ASSURED THE EMBASSY OFFICER THAT THERE IS SERIOUS CONCERN WITHIN THE HIGHER LEVELS OF THE GOS OVER THE INCREASING FREIGHT RATES.

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2. EMBASSY WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE EXTENT OF CONCERN WITHIN THE GOS AND THE TYPE OF COUNTERMEASURES THEY HAVE IN MIND, IF ANY.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH COUNTERMEASURES ARE APPARENTLY A POSSIBILITY, UNLESS THE RATES SITUATION DETERIORATES

SIGNIFICANTLY WE WOULD THINK THAT THE GOS WOULD BE
HESITANT TO INSTITUTE SIGNIFICANT COUNTERMEASURES OR
TAKE STRONG ACTIONS AGAINST THE CONFERENCE. SINGAPORE
TAKES PRIDE IN ITS FREE SHIPPING POLICY AND DIVERGENCE
FROM THIS POLICY WOULD BE A SERIOUS STEP.
HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: CARGO HANDLING, FREIGHT RATES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
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Draft Date: 04 may 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780593/aaaadbet.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 66de98a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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